Admission Criteria in Navodaya Vidyalayas

1755. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the wards of employees of Navodaya Vidyalayas are admitted in Navodaya Vidyalayas without admission test, unlike the general candidates under special category; and

(b) if so, the reasons for excluding the wards of employees working in regional offices and headquarter office of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti for admission in Navodaya Vidyalayas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYASINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) The children of teaching and non-teaching employees working in the JNVs are considered for admission in JNVs without taking the All India Admission Test but subject to suitable test to be conducted by the Principal of the concerned Vidyalaya, because most of the JNVs are situated in remote rural areas where there is no other facility for education. The wards of the employees of NVS Hqrs. and Regional Offices are excluded, because the Hqrs. and Regional Offices are situated in cities and educational facilities are available in these areas.

Integrated Child Development Scheme

†1756. DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 4200 projects are being run under the Integrated Child Development Scheme at present and five lakh and ninety two thousand centres are functioning under the said schemes in the country;

(b) whether twelve lakh Anganwari women workers and Assistants are working in these centres but they are being paid Rs. 500 to Rs. 250 monthly as wages and these employees have no benefits of leave, dearness allowance, pension and any type of group insurance;

(c) what are the reasons for negligent attitude of Government towards them; and

(d) the efforts being made by Government for their wages and other benefits?

†Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir. 4200 ICDS Projects are being run at present and 5.92 lakh Anganwadi Centres are sanctioned in the country.

(b) There are 505796 Anganwadi Workers and same number of helpers as on date. While Anganwadi Workers are paid honorarium ranging from Rs. 438/- to Rs. 563/- p.m., helpers are paid Rs. 260/- p.m. as honorarium. Anganwadi Workers have also been provided with the benefits of paid maternity leave and 20 days of paid absence in a year.

(c) and (d) The Government appreciates the voluntary efforts put in by Anganwadi Workers and Helpers in implementation of the ICDS Scheme. Accordingly, the Government has been increasing the amount of honorarium being paid to Anganwadi Workers and Helpers from time to time. The last increase was done in May, 1997. Besides the norms for honorarium for these workers fixed by Government of India, some State Governments and UT Administrations are paying them additional amount from their own sources. We have taken up this matter with the remaining State Governments to pay them additional amount. Besides this, these workers are required to attend training programmes aimed at their empowerment. They are given TA/DA etc. for attending the training programmes which was revised in 1999.

Status of Kendriya/Navodaya Vidyalaya Employees *vis-a-vis* Central Government Employees

†1757. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that employees of Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas get their salary etc. from Consolidated Fund of India and hence they are Central Government employees;

(b) if so, whether they are not considered Central Government employees in several other matters; and

(c) what are the reasons for depriving them of various facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti and Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan are autonomous organisations registered as Societies under Societies Registration Act, 1860.

†Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.